United Nations A/C.5/62/L.20

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 December 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 128
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

I
International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Having considered the programme budget proposals for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO for the biennium 2008-2009[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Decides* to approve resources in the amount of 28,099,800 United States dollars (at the exchange rate of 1.2 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for the biennium 2008-2009 under section 13, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

II
Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[3] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Board[4] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5,6]

---

[1] A/62/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1.
[2] A/62/7/Add.10.
[3] A/62/175.
[4] A/C.5/62/2.
[5] A/62/7/Add.3.
[6] A/62/Add.13.

07-65837 (E) 271207

1. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 131,996,500 dollars net for the biennium 2008-2009 and a revised estimate of 104,461,100 dollars net for the biennium 2006-2007 for the administration of the Fund;

2. *Also approves* an additional amount of 748,200 dollars above the level of resources set out in section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009[7] as the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund;

III

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Recalling section IV of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2008-2009[8] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[9]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[9]

3. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the Institute of 485,500 dollars for the biennium 2008-2009 from the regular budget of the United Nations, on the understanding that no additional provision would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007,[10] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[11]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[11]

---

[7] A/62/6 (Sect. 1).
[8] A/C.5/62/3.
[9] A/62/7/Add.5.
[10] A/62/515.
[11] A/62/7/Add.16.

3. *Notes* that provision relating to the resource requirements for the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is considered in the report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1;[12]

V

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council,[13] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Regrets* the recurrent late submission of the reports under consideration, which hinders the proper examination of the matter by the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions not later than the first week of November;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Notes* the insufficient level of collaboration between the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support with respect to special political missions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure systemic cooperation so as to prevent duplication among the three departments;

5. *Stresses* the importance of clear reporting lines and accountability between special political missions and Headquarters;

6. *Recalls* its resolution 48/259 of 14 July 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that functions and responsibilities of special envoys, special representatives and other special high-level positions are more clearly defined and streamlined, avoiding any possible duplication, and that the current financial regulations and budgetary procedures are fully complied with;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all special political missions are properly managed, and all related post and non-post resources are fully and thoroughly justified;

8. *Decides* to revert to consideration of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs[15] during its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs;[16]

---

[12] A/62/616.

[13] A/62/512 and Add.1-3, Add.4 and Corr.1 and Add.5.

[14] A/62/7/Add.29.

[15] A/61/357.

[16] A/62/521.

9. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement relevant provisions of that resolution to special political missions, where applicable;

10. *Decides* to upgrade the position of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide to the Under-Secretary-General level, and to establish an additional P-3 and an additional General Service (Other level) position in his office;

11. *Takes note* of paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14] and decides to approve the establishment of one new P-3 position for a Political Affairs Officer in the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon;

12. *Also takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 16 of its report, and approves the proposal of the Secretary-General to finance the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia as from 1 January 2008 without prejudice to the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations related to special political missions;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a new, complete and detailed proposal for the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad, under section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget, for its consideration at the first part of its resumed sixty-second session;

16. *Decides* to reduce the overall provision for special political missions for 2008-2009 by 200,150,000 dollars;

17. *Approves* the budgets totalling 386,587,300 dollars of the 26 special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council presented in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General;[17]

18. *Also approves* a charge totalling 386,587,300 dollars net against the provision for special political missions requested in section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

VI
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 2, 23, 27, 28E and 35 and income section 1 and a proposal related to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising from the implementation of decisions of the Human Rights

[17] A/62/512.

Council[18] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[19]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to establish five P-5 posts for Senior Revisers for conference management, Geneva;

3. *Approves* net additional resource requirements for the biennium 2008-2009 amounting to 765,100 dollars, representing:

(a) A reduction of 307,400 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;

(b) An increase of 1,072,500 dollars under section 23, Human rights;

(c) Additional resource requirements of 324,700 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

VII

Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis[20] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[21]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[20]

2. *Stresses* the need for a comprehensive review of all business continuity measures, including human influenza pandemic and other kinds of emergency planning, and requests the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive report on business continuity, including in the event of a pandemic, that is complementary to and compatible with the wider enterprise resource planning and information and communications technology reform, and to include information on the status of implementation of measures taken in that regard at its sixty-third session;

VIII

Development Account

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997, 53/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B

[18] A/62/125.
[19] A/62/7/Add.25.
[20] A/62/328.
[21] A/62/7/Add.2 and Corr.1.

of 8 June 1999, 54/15 of 29 October 1999, 56/237 of 24 December 2001 and 60/246 of 23 December 2005, and section IV of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Regretting the lack of sufficient allocation of resources for developing countries in order to enable them to better cope with developmental priorities, in particular the Millennium Development Goals and internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing the importance of building appropriate intellectual capacities in the developing countries to help them achieve the Millennium Development Goals and more broadly the internationally agreed development goals, which constitute additional financial and technical obligations,

Stressing the failure of the prescribed modalities for identification of resources to finance the Development Account,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account,[22] the fifth annual progress report on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account[23] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[24]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account[22] and the fifth annual progress report on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account,[23] and encourages him to work further towards identifying resources from possible reductions in administration and other overhead costs that may be identified for transfer to the Development Account;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[24] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* the role and prerogative of Member States in setting the priorities of the Organization, as reflected in legislative decisions;

4. *Stresses* that the Development Account is one of the appropriate tools to cope with the evolving needs of the global development agenda;

5. *Notes with concern* that the Secretary-General has not fulfilled the mandates contained in resolution 52/12 B and subsequent resolutions on the Development Account;

6. *Recognizes* that the current modalities for financing the Development Account, which is to be funded from savings achieved as a result of the efficiency measures that can be identified in the context of budget performance reports, have not proved successful;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of section IV of its resolution 61/252;

8. *Also recalls* that the amount of 2.5 million dollars was appropriated under section 34, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 as an immediate exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

---

[22] A/62/466.
[23] A/62/123.
[24] A/62/7/Add.6.

9. *Notes with deep concern* that the Secretary-General has not been able to define a procedure to track and identify efficiency gains in the context of budget performance reports and that he has not been able to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on how additional resources in the region of 2.5 million dollars could be added to the Development Account;

10. *Notes with concern* the lack of options in the report of the Secretary-General[22] for tangible, predictable and sustainable funding for the Development Account;

11. *Decides* to appropriate an additional 2.5 million dollars for the Development Account;

12. *Stresses* that the appropriation referred to in paragraph 12 above is an exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution 52/235;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fully comply with its resolution 52/12 B and subsequent resolutions on the Development Account;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present a report on the implementation of the present resolution at its sixty-third session;

IX

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Recalling section II of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[25] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[26]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[25] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[26]

X

Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre

Recalling section I of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[27] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[28]

---

[25] A/62/487.
[26] A/62/7/Add.11.
[27] A/62/358.
[28] A/62/7/Add.9.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts by the Government of Austria, as host country, to construct conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[27] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[28]

XI

Supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

Recalling section VII of its resolution 52/222 of 22 December 1997,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague[29] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[30]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[29]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[30]

3. Approves the amendments to the supplementary agreement contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;

XII

Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Recalling section II of its resolution 61/273 of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women[31] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[32]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[31]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[32]

3. *Reiterates its appeal* to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Institute and to honour existing pledges in a timely manner;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that continue to contribute to and support the activities of the Institute;

---

[29] A/62/496.
[30] A/62/7/Add.8.
[31] A/62/509.
[32] A/62/7/Add.12.

5. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the management and the Executive Board of the Institute for their efforts that have helped the Institute secure sustainable financing;

XIII
Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007,[33] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[34]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[33]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[34]

XIV
United Nations Postal Administration

Recalling its resolutions 57/292 of 20 December 2002 and 61/233 A of 22 December 2006 and section III of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration[35] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[36]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[35]

2. *Notes* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[36]

3. *Takes note* of paragraphs 9 to 11 of the report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to continue taking measures, alternative to the establishment of a contingent liability reserve, to eliminate risks posed to the United Nations Postal Administration by mass mailing and to report on the progress achieved at its sixty-third session;

4. *Decides* to consider the establishment of a contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration as a solution to the issue of reducing the risk posed to the Postal Administration by the use of its services for commercial and bulk mail, on the basis of any future recommendations of the Board of Auditors and updated information provided by the Secretary-General on this issue, at its sixty-third session;

---

[33] A/62/336.
[34] A/62/353 and A/62/7 Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.
[35] A/61/900.
[36] A/62/350.

XV
Standards of accommodation for air travel

Recalling its resolution 42/214 of 21 December 1987, section IV, paragraph 14, of its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998 and section IV of its resolution 60/255 of 8 May 2006,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel and on the review of the standards of travel and entitlements for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and entities of the United Nations system,[37] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system,[38] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system[39] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[40]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[37]

2. *Also takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system[38] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system;[39]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[40,41] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Takes note* of the recommendation in paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[40]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to report on the feasibility of harmonizing standards of travel for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, on the basis of a review and proposals by the Chief Executives Board, taking due consideration of the specificity of the work and mandates of the different entities of the system;

XVI
Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 12,191,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[42]

---

[37] A/61/188 and Corr.1 and A/61/801.
[38] A/60/78.
[39] A/60/78/Add.1.
[40] A/61/661.
[41] A/62/351.
[42] See A/C.5/62/22.

XVII
Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation[43] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[44]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting due to the effects of changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

XVIII
Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 11,633,000 dollars;

XIX
International Civil Service Commission

Approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 17,777,000 dollars;

XX
Administration of justice

Recalling its resolution 62/228 of 22 December 2007 on the administration of justice,

1. *Decides* to approve a total amount of 17,010,200 dollars under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, reflecting increases comprising 11,860,400 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, 1,737,300 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 41,300 dollars under section 17, Economic and social development in Africa, 92,700 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, 98,100 dollars under section 20, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 37,500 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Western Asia, 326,700 dollars under section 28A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, 269,500 dollars under section 28C, Office of Human Resources Management, 1,297,600 dollars under section 28D, Office of Central Support Services, 167,800 dollars under section 28E, Administration, Geneva, 1,119,200 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment, partially offset by reductions of 23,800 dollars under section 28F, Administration, Vienna, and 14,100 dollars under section 28G, Administration, Nairobi, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

2. *Also decides* that the amount of 305,300 dollars will be financed from the resources approved for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the

---

[43] A/62/587.

[44] A/62/7/Add.30.

period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, to be reported to the General Assembly in the context of the performance report on the support account for the period;

XXI
Use of 300-series and 100-series appointments

1. *Recalls* section XIV of its resolution 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and section VII of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007;

2. *Decides* to continue to suspend the application of the four-year maximum limit for appointments of limited duration until 30 June 2008;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind paragraph 2 above, to reappoint, under the 100 series of the Staff Rules, those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts has reached the four-year limit by 30 June 2008, provided that their functions have been reviewed and found necessary and their performance has been confirmed as fully satisfactory, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the practice of using 300-series contracts as the primary instrument for the appointment of new staff;

XXII
United Nations Office for Partnerships

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office for Partnerships[45] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[46]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[45]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[46]

XXIII
Jointly financed gross budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross budget of the Department of Safety and Security for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 200,126,100 dollars, broken down as follows:

(a) Field Security Operations: 172,417,700 dollars;

(b) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 27,708,400 dollars.

---

[45] A/62/220.
[46] A/62/363.